

Amendments to the Specification

Pages 8- 9

Please replace paragraph 43 beginning on page 8 and continuing onto page 9, with the following:

Figure 5 illustrates one half of a fastseam **200** which also does not require the use of a hammer or the like during its initial assembly, according to another embodiment of the present invention. As depicted in Figure 5, the fastseam **200** includes a female portion **202** which is formed by repetitively bending, or roll forming, the duct material, typically sheet metal or the like, back upon itself so as to form an open fold **204**. The open fold **204**, in association with a substantially parallel fold **208**, serves to define a female groove **206**, wherein the open fold **204** includes a sealing portion/fold **220** bent at an angle to the open fold **204** prior to a male portion of the fastseam being inserted into the female groove **206**. The sealing portion **220** may then be bent in the direction of arrow E in order to completely seal the fastseam **200** after the unillustrated male portion is inserted into the female groove **206**.